



CITY COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS MEETING MINUTES



The following is a summary of the City Commission on Veterans Affairs meeting which took place on 17 February 2020 at Good Samaritan Veterans Outreach and Transition Center; 202 Connelly St. San Antonio, TX 78203:

- Chair, Richard Delgado called the meeting to order.
- Chair lead Pledge of Allegiance.
- Chair completed Roll Call. District (D)1, D2, D4, D7, D8, D9, D10, and Chair Present. D3 and D6 excused. D5 Vacant. Additional attendees included Juan Ayala - Office of Military and Veteran Affairs (OMVA), Tim Woliver - OMVA, Debe Clark – OMVA.
- There was no “Public Comments”.
- There were no minutes to approve as last meeting did not include a quorum.
- These information items were discussed:
 - a) Hidden Heroes City Updates- Debe Clark requested VAC attend as they are stated as the lead and provided an updated on the May 2020 event. Item was initially delayed until D8’s arrival. D8 discussed reviewing the criteria of the report and finding out what CoSA’s strengths and weakness are and then deep diving into one of those areas to look for improvement. D8 focused on item 7, affordable housing and cost of living which San Antonio is doing well on.
 - c) SA2020 Discussion- Vice Chair/ D9, lead discussion focusing on SA2020’s latest product which does not highlight military / veteran as separate demographic. The benefits and negatives associated were discussed. SA2020 team will be at the JBSA Transition Alliance group to explain their product and how military can further be involved without being a separate demographic.
 - d) VA Hospital Discussion- Chair lead discussion regarding formal request necessary to update and replace Audie Murphy Hospital. Political Will is necessary to see changes. VAC members will need to brief their councilmembers. Chair and others will share information so can supplement the briefs with products/ data.
 - e) OMVA and District Collaborations- Debe Clark briefed need of VAC members to engage on local VSO projects to keep their councilmembers engaged and to encourage these projects. Example engagement discussed such as D3 and JUMP and WHF, D4 and MMI, D7 and VetStrong, D8 and Camp Bullis Engagement and Korean Monument, D9 and Camp Bullis Engagement and Education Summit.

f) OMVA activities- Debe Clark provided additional information on other initiatives OMVA is focused on.

- The following announcements were made:

a) D5 representative is the only vacancy.

b) Reports- focus needs to be last projects, next projects, district concerns, district focus:

D1- Interested in teaming with D8 for KWVA project.

D2- New to VAC.

D3- Absent.

D4- Listed districts events.

D5- Vacant.

D6- Absent.

D7- Discussed Vetstrong initiative which is synced with multiple city departments.

D8- Emphasizes the significance of getting onto military installations with councilmembers and getting a stronger understanding of their mission. Mentioned Military Medical City USA and how seeing Camp Bullis helped emphasize that. Interested in organizing a Camp Bullis Community Day.

D9/ Vice Chair- Introduced the organization Vets for Warriors, a peer support group.

D10- New to VAC.

Chair- Discussed work between Mayor and Community which allowed the rodeo to increased accessibility to veterans this year by honoring special license plate parking.

Note: Speaker was not noted however was likely D2 or D10 representative who stated lines of effort as "H.E.L.P." Homelessness, Employment, Legal Assistance, and Payment.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Debe M. Clark
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